United States Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of North Carolina

In re: Case No. 19-01300-JNC

CAH Acquisition Company 6, LLC Chapter 7

Debtor

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

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Date Rcvd: Jun 22, 2023 Form ID: pdf014 Total Noticed: 1

Notice by first class mail was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center on Jun 24, 2023:

Recipi ID Recipient Name and Address

db CAH Acquisition Company 6, LLC, PO Box 953241, Saint Louis, MO 63195-3241

TOTAL: 1

Notice by electronic transmission was sent to the following persons/entities by the Bankruptcy Noticing Center. Electronic transmission includes sending notices via email (Email/text and Email/PDF), and electronic data interchange (EDI).

NONE

## BYPASSED RECIPIENTS

The following addresses were not sent this bankruptcy notice due to an undeliverable address, \*duplicate of an address listed above, \*P duplicate of a preferred address, or ## out of date forwarding orders with USPS.

NONE

### NOTICE CERTIFICATION

I, Gustava Winters, declare under the penalty of perjury that I have sent the attached document to the above listed entities in the manner shown, and prepared the Certificate of Notice and that it is true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Meeting of Creditor Notices only (Official Form 309): Pursuant to Fed .R. Bank. P.2002(a)(1), a notice containing the complete Social Security Number (SSN) of the debtor(s) was furnished to all parties listed. This official court copy contains the redacted SSN as required by the bankruptcy rules and the Judiciary's privacy policies.

Date: Jun 24, 2023 Signature: /s/Gustava Winters

## CM/ECF NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

The following persons/entities were sent notice through the court's CM/ECF electronic mail (Email) system on June 22, 2023 at the address(es) listed below:

Name Email Address

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TOTAL: 83

SO ORDERED.

SIGNED this 22 day of June, 2023.



Joseph N. Callaway United States Bankruptcy Judge

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA GREENVILLE DIVISION

In re:	
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY #1, LLC, d/b/a WASHINGTON COUNTY HOSPITAL,	Case No. 19-00730-5-JNC Chapter 11
Debtor.	
In re:	
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY #2, LLC, d/b/a OSWEGO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	Case No. 19-01230-5-JNC Chapter 11
In re:	
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY #3, LLC, d/b/a HORTON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	Case No. 19-01180-5-JNC Chapter 11
In re:	
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY 6, LLC, d/b/a I-70 COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	Case No. 19-01300-5-JNC Chapter 7
Debtor.	

In re:	)
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY 7, LLC, d/b/a PRAGUE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	) Case No. 19-01298-5-JNC ) Chapter 11
Debtor.	)
In re:	
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY 12, LLC, d/b/a FAIRFAX COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	) Case No. 19-01697-5-JNC ) Chapter 11
Debtor.	)
In re:	)
CAH ACQUISITION COMPANY 16, LLC, d/b/a HASKELL COUNTY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,	) Case No. 19-01227-5-JNC ) Chapter 11
Debtor.	, )

# ORDER ON COMPENSATION FOR SPECIAL COUNSEL MCDONALD HOPKINS, LLP, FOR LITIGATION FUNDING PROCUREMENT

The matter before the Court is contained in the Motion for Order Authorizing and Approving (I) Litigation Funding Agreement with Omni Bridgeway (Fund 4) INVT. 3 L.P.; (II) Engagement Agreement with McDonald Hopkins, LLP, related to Litigation Funding; and (III) Engagement Agreements with Waldrep Wall Babcock and Bailey, PLLC, and McDonald Hopkins, LLP, Related to Litigation Funding, Effective from and after April 15, 2023 (Dkt. 1580; the "Motion"). The Motion was filed on May 23, 2023, by Thomas W. Waldrep, Jr., in his capacity as trustee of the estates of the above-captioned Debtors ("Trustee"). This order is limited to the request listed in component (II) above concerning compensation sought by special litigation counsel, McDonald Hopkins, LLP, for its work related to obtaining procurement of the Litigation Funding Agreement. The Bankruptcy Administrator filed a response to the Motion (Dkt. 1588; the "Response") on June 13, 2023. The Motion and Response were heard by the court on June 20, 2023, in Greenville, North Carolina.

At the hearing, after considering the evidence presented and arguments of counsel, components (I) and (III) of the Motion were approved in part. A separate order regarding the same was entered on June 22, 2023 (Dkt. 1593). In support of the relief requested in component (II), the court also considered the Affidavit of Marc Carmel (Dkt. 1586; the "Affidavit") filed June 5, 2023. In the Affidavit, Mr. Carmel details the work, time and effort expended in obtaining the Litigation Funding Agreement now approved by the court. The services were rendered between December 15, 2021, and May 23, 2023, as detailed and itemized in Exhibit A attached to the Affidavit. The compensation sought totals \$90,665.50 when calculated at the firm's normal hourly rates for the professionals listed. McDonald Hopkins then seeks to double that compensation to \$181,331.00 based on risk, value, and success.

McDonald Hopkins argues that the nature, value, and risk of the matter should be considered as a broker fee request rather than attorney time. However, McDonald Hopkins never sought and was not employed as a broker for the Litigation Trusts and the Trustee in these cases. It therefore has no authority to seek broker compensation. Even if such employment had been sought, the court was unlikely to grant the same. McDonald Hopkins is employed as special litigation counsel for the Litigation Trusts and Trustee, and as such it and its attorneys owe a higher degree of loyalty and professionalism than any mere broker. In fact, from the record it appears McDonald Hopkins has provided that higher degree of loyalty and professionalism in this matter that the court expects. The work in obtaining litigation funding is well within attorney work scope.

For these reasons and others appearing of record, the court declined to treat the request as a broker fee, but instead, reviewed the matter as a legal fee request made under sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, plus a request for fee enhancement. The court has reviewed and finds that the underlying fee request, for the actual and detailed time set forth in the Affidavit, was reasonable and necessary work for the Litigation Trusts and Trustee performed within the scope of McDonald Hopkins' employment. The \$90,665.50 base fee sought is accordingly approved as stated at the hearing.

The court next considered whether an enhancement of the base amount would be warranted under factors enumerated by the Fifth Circuit in *Johnson v. Georgia Highway Express, Inc.*, 488 F.2d 714 (5th Cir. 1974), adopted in the Fourth Circuit as the test for fee enhancement in *Barber v. Kimbrell's, Inc.*, 577 F.2d 216, 226 (4th Cir.), *cert. denied,* 439 U.S. 934, 99 S.Ct. 329, 58 L.Ed.2d 330 (1978). After reviewing the "Johnson Factors" applicable here, the court declines to double the base fee, finding that the work does not merit such a large enhancement. However, the request for some enhancement is appropriate given the associated risks and success. The court in its discretion awards a success bonus in the amount of \$34,334.50 for a total approved fee of \$125,000.00 (including costs). The amount was announced in open court at the hearing and no party present objected.

THEREFORE, it is ORDERED and DECREED that compensation and fees for McDonald Hopkins, LLP, as special counsel for the Trustee, is ALLOWED and GRANTED in the total amount of \$125,000 for the work performed between December 15, 2021, through May 23, 2023, specified in Exhibit A attached to the Affidavit and sought in the Motion. Such amount may be paid by the Trustee from proceeds drawn from the approved Litigation Funding Agreement approved in the Litigation Funding Order when appropriate in his business judgment.

#### END OF DOCUMENT